Listing of the Claims as Amended

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1-20 (Canceled).

21 (Currently amended). A method for processing financial instruments comprising

(a) <u>providing a plurality of financial event templates, each financial event template comprising at least one component, and defining, for each variable within said at least one component that points to another component, a processor-independent interface to said other component;</u>

(b) <u>providing</u> a representation of <u>each</u> said instrument <u>comprising a static representation of said instrument and an event representation thereof, said event representation being constructed by steps comprising selecting financial events from said plurality of financial event templates;</u> and

(c) <u>providing</u> at least one processing object that defines the processing to be performed for a plurality of event types <u>and</u>, ~~wherein said representation comprises a static representation and an event representation of said instrument and said at least one processing object~~ performs said processing by acting upon the events of said event representation, and wherein said <u>static</u> representation is specified independently from said at least one processing object.

22 (Previously presented). The method of claim 21, wherein said static representation further comprises said instrument's inputs, the relationships of said inputs with each other, and how said relationships combine to produce a series of financial event streams.

23 (Currently amended). The method of claim 22, <u>further comprising</u> ~~wherein a second processor acts upon said static representation and~~

(a) providing an event extraction processing object;

(b) providing a set of instrument parameters for said instrument; and

(c) using said event extraction processing object ~~in order~~ to generate said event representation, and wherein said ~~second processor~~ event extraction processing object is specified independently of the specification of said static representation.

24 (Canceled).

25 (Currently amended). The method of claim 21, wherein said at least one processing object acts upon said event representation ~~is implemented~~ via a double dispatch mechanism.

26 (Currently amended). The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one processing object acts upon said static representation and said instrument parameters ~~processing is implemented~~ via a double dispatch mechanism.

27 (Currently amended). The method of claim 21, wherein said at least one processing object acts upon said event representation ~~processing is implemented~~ via polymorphism.

28 (Currently amended). The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one processing object acts upon said static representation and said instrument parameters ~~processing is implemented~~ via polymorphism.

29 (Currently amended). The method of claim 21, ~~wherein~~ said at least one processing object comprises a plurality of processing objects, each of said processing objects providing an alternate method for performing ~~processors may be utilized to provide alternate methods of performing a type of~~ processing upon said instrument, each said processing object being selectable without changing the representation of said instrument.

30 (Canceled).

31 (Canceled).

32 (Withdrawn).

33 (Withdrawn).